

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kahn *et al.*

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Title: METHOD OF MODIFYING COMPONENTS PRESENT IN CASHEW NUT SHELL LIQUID

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Box Patent Application

Washington, D.C. 20231

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115**

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed contemporaneously with a filing under 37 CFR 1.53(b). Prior to examination of this continuation application, please amend the priority application as follows:

**A. In the specification:**

**1.) Page 1, replace paragraph 1, lines 7-10 with:**

**-- Cross Reference to Related Applications**

This application is a continuation of co-pending International Patent Application Number PCT/GB99/03913, filed November 25, 1999, and claims priority from GB Patent Application Numbers 9914108.7, filed June 18, 1999 and 9825679.5, filed November 25, 1998. The entire disclosures of the prior applications are incorporated herein by reference.

**Field of the Invention**

This invention relates to a method of modifying components present in cashew nut shell liquid (CNSL), so as to improve its utilisation as a raw material for the formation of polymeric materials, particularly to be used as binders in the formation of composite products.

**Background of the Invention** --